

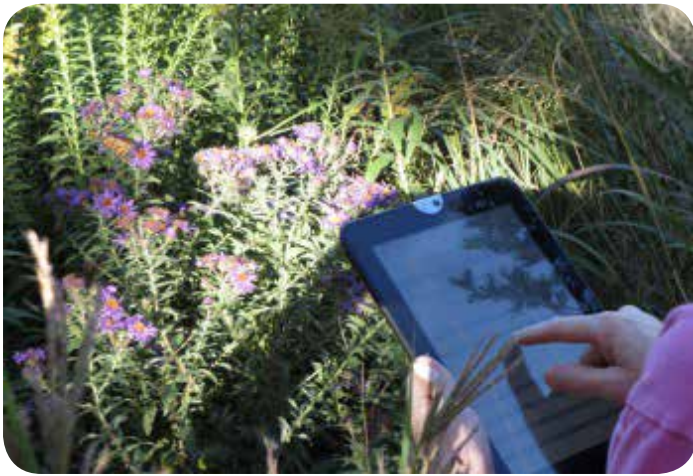


JOURNAL

Warren County Conservation Board

Fall 2016

Science at Your Fingertips: Become a Citizen Scientist



Do you have a natural love for animals and plants? Are you purely fascinated by the wild world around us? Do you like to hike, hunt, fish, or explore outdoors in your free time? Would you like to help conserve our wildlife. If so, then you could be a citizen scientist.

Scientists don't have to be a biologist or ecologist. They don't have to work for an organization or government agency. Anyone can help with science research as an informal volunteer.

Some animal species are easier to track than others. Some can be tracked by bands or radiometry. Some make appearances or sounds and are easy to collect data on. But some cannot speak for themselves at all. Population data helps determine conservation efforts and wildlife management. Some species may be getting killed by pesticides. Some may be trying to adapt in a new habitat because theirs has been destroyed. Some may be thriving in an unsuspected place. Some are in decline, but some populations are growing.

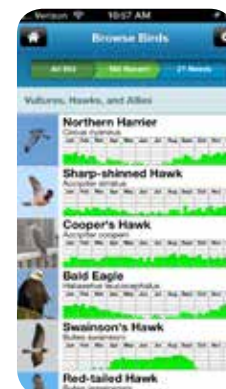
Citizen science gives a widespread, snapshot view of where species are occurring and how populations are doing.

Citizen science has been around for years. Think of the journals from Lewis & Clark or the writings of Charles Darwin: they were observing what they saw. Today, technology has enabled citizen science to be right at our fingertips. You can choose which type of science you are interested in and download an app to your phone.

As you do your favorite hobbies outdoors, if you notice any particular species, you can open your smartphone or tablet and record your sightings.

Citizen science can be simple and convenient, and is a great way to get involved with a great cause without a huge time commitment. It only takes a matter of seconds to share data that could be used for years. It's a great way to get more eyes on the ground looking out for our natural world.

Flip to Page 2 for a list of citizen science apps to try, and have fun out there!



Citizen Science Apps

Unified Butterfly Recorder (UBR)

Provides butterfly researchers and enthusiasts with a tool to use in the field to efficiently record butterfly sighting data.

eBird

eBird provides rich data sources for basic information on bird abundance and distribution at a variety of spatial and temporal scales. By Audubon Society and Cornell Lab of Ornithology

Project Noah

Project Noah is a worldwide project to document the planet's biodiversity by crowd sourcing photos of animals and plants in your local area.

Leafsnap

Shares data uploaded by users of the location of tree species with images of leaves.

Project Budburst

Collects data on the timing of leafing, flowering, and fruiting of plants throughout the year to help scientists investigate the impact of climate change on different species.

iNaturalist

A tool that lets citizen scientists document their observations of nature. Users can upload photos of plants and animals they observe, add notes, and transmit the location, date, and time of their observation.

Loss of the Night

Users collect data by mapping light pollution and star visibility to help scientists measure and understand the effects of light pollution on health, environment and society.

Meteor Counter

Developed by NASA, users document astronomical magnitudes of meteors observed during meteor showers.

Meet a Member:

Steve Weaver



Steve Weaver has been a dedicated volunteer and board member for Friends of Warren County Conservation since 2004. Steve has a strong belief in the value of public service and increasing appreciation of our natural resources. Joining the FWCC was a great fit. Throughout each year, he spends about 140 hours attending monthly meetings and volunteering at program events and fund raising projects. His wife Mary is often by his side at programs, volunteering with a smile.

As a hobbyist woodworker, Steve is able to contribute wonderfully crafted furniture and toy items for the annual Prairie Picnic. He advocates for programs that promote an appreciation for our natural resources and an active outdoor lifestyle.

Steve spent 42 years in public service, working for the State of Iowa. He started in direct service, helping clients seeking employment, then spent the second half of his career as an IT specialist. His last ten years, before he retired in 2010, were spent with the Department of Natural Resources.

Residing in New Virginia, Steve enjoys maintaining and improving his acreage, which includes a pond, woodland, prairie grass, and pasture. He also enjoys the traditional, lifelong hobby of fishing. His favorite outdoor memories include hunting and fishing with his father.

Steve's favorite Warren County Conservation area is the Annett Nature Center and Park, since so much of the public interaction happens there.

"I enjoy working with like-minded Friends to support the work of the Warren County Conservation Board and staff, knowing that there is always something new to discover in our natural world through the facilities and programs offered here."

Fall Review



Thank You! For All Your Time & Contributions This Summer & Fall

FWCC Mailing

Steve & Mary Weaver
Steve Dermand
Blair Lawson
Randy & Sure Edwards
John Krogmeier

Prairie Picnic

Ted Lare Garden Center
Green Acres Nursery
Pies and Pastries by Lana
A little Bit of This a little Bit of
That - Jeannine Naberhaus
Ackworth Garden Club
Cleaveland Access Controls LLC
Char & Mark Vukovich
Chuck & Becky Kakac
Denny Lamport & Jill Rossiter
Donita Peterson
Jeff & Marlys Sowers
Doug Gaumer

Shawn Szalkowski
John & Kathy Krogmeier
Bob & Jackie Sarasio
Nancy Johlas
Blair & Marilyn Lawson
Steve Dermand
Polly Glascock
Monty & Lori Freeman
Warren County Pheasants
Forever
Nancy Engle
Steve & Mary Weaver
Randy & Sue Edwards
Bill & Donna Fink
Warren County IKES
Kelsey Longnecker
Neil Johnson
Ashley Vanderflight
Simpson College Rotaract Club
Black Keys Jazz Trio:
Zach Howarth,
Cotez Daniel,
Lewell Riker
Mark Putney, Putney Auction

Ice Cream Social

FWCC
Mick Kreidler

Warren County Farm Tour

Kathy Krogmeier
Ashley Vangerflught
Steve Dermand
Randy Edwards
Neil Johnson
Shawn Szalkowski

Mentored Deer Hunt

Robin Kluesner
Mike Doornenbal
Whitetails Unlimited
Iowa DNR: Josh Shipman,
Jim Coffey, Craig Cutts, Eric
Hoffman, Dustin Eighmy, Ken
Kenyon, Nate Anderson

Halloween Hike

Steve & Mary Weaver
Olivia Blanchard
Gabe Zwanzinger
Paul Wilson
Rachel Henle
Donna Fink
Shawn Szalkowski
Hannah Gim
Maddie Davis
Christine Fim
John & Kathy Krogmeier
Neil Johnson
Monty & Lori Freeman
Bre Waugh
Victoria Jordan
Alannah Olson
Stephanie Twohey
Ashley Vanderflight
Blair Lawson

Front Desk Volunteer

Kyrea Kass

Mentored Deer Hunt



The 2016 Warren County Mentored Deer Hunt, held October 22–23, included a group of youngsters. All participants were middle school-aged. They had never hunted before or wanted to learn more about hunting. The weekend prior, participants practiced at the shooting range. All were pretty good shots! We had a warm weekend, but everyone at least got to observe deer moving around while hunting with their mentor. Three antlerless deer were harvested, all in the morning shortly after sunrise. Abigail Johnston shot the first deer of the weekend. Aiden Payne and Brayden Lindquist both shot their first deer. Thanks to Whitetails Unlimited, Ahquabi Chapter for sponsoring this program, to the Iowa DNR staff for all their assistance, and to the mentors for passing on their hunting and conservation knowledge to future generations.

Halloween Hike



Just a week shy of Halloween, 260 people gathered at the Annett Nature Center for the annual Halloween Hike. This was our biggest attendance ever! This year's theme was *Zootopia*. If you haven't seen this movie, it's an enjoyable Disney film that touches on wild animal behavior and habitats. Hikers walked along the candlelit trail and met several characters. Officer Judy Hopps the rabbit was there, along with Nick Wilde the fox, Flash the sloth, Mrs. Bellwether the sheep, and Mrs. Otterton the otter. Afterwards, hikers warmed up with hot cocoa, cookies and a fox craft. Partnering on the program were Friends of Warren County Conservation, Simpson College Rotaract Club, and Indianola High School Interact Students.

Winter Events

December

Winter Wonderland Day

Tuesday, December 27th | 9: 00 a.m. | Annett Nature Center (ANC)

A great way to get the kids outside during winter break! Join a Warren County Conservation Naturalist for a fun-filled day doing winter activities in the park and nature center. This event will include outside activities (such as snowshoeing, snow play, bird watching), indoor educational activities (about winter animals), a movie, lunch and a craft. The fee is \$5. This camp is for children in grades K–5. Please register by December 16th.

Snowshoe Geocaching



Friday, December 30th | 3 p.m. | ANC

Join Warren County Conservation to get outside in the winter! Learn about GPS technology and geocaching, then head to the trails to find hidden treasures on snowshoes. Your hidden treasures will be the ingredients for a delicious treat to warm up with afterwards. This geocaching hike will be held with or without snow. Please register by December 28th.

Save the Date!

March 18: Eclipse Program
March 23: Geocaching Hike
April 1: Geocaching Adventure Launch

January

Snowshoe Hikes/Winter Hikes

Sunday, January 8th | 1 p.m. | ANC

Register by January 7th

Saturday, January 14th | 1 p.m. | Pickard Park

Register by January 13th

Saturday, January 21st | 1 p.m. | ANC

Register by January 20th

Don't let the winter weather keep you locked up indoors! Join Warren County Conservation (and Indianola Parks & Recreation at Pickard Park) to experience the great outdoors and learn how easy and fun snowshoeing can be! Fun for the whole family! Proper clothing, equipment, and techniques will be discussed. Wear warm boots. This event is dependent on snow conditions, but—if there is no snow—we will still meet to enjoy a winter hike. Please register by January 7th.



Ice Fishing Clinic

Saturday, January 31st | 8:30 a.m. | ANC

Come learn the basics of ice fishing and try it out yourself! Start out in the nature center to learn about equipment, ice safety, fish species, fishing locations and more! After checking out the gear, head out to Lester Pond to try to catch some fish through the ice. Poles and bait will be provided. Bring something to sit on and dress warm! Anyone ages 16 + must have a current Iowa fishing license to participate in the fishing portion. This program will only be held if ice conditions are safe. Please pre-register so we can update you. Please register by January 28th. Updates on ice conditions will be emailed to those that provide addresses, and posted on the WCCB web site and facebook pages.

Winter Events

February

Owl Prowl

Thursday, February 2nd | 6:30 p.m. | ANC

Join us for a hooting good time. We will learn about the Owls of Iowa, learn to identify their calls, and head out for a hike down the trail to listen for owls living in the park. Winter is a great time to call for owls, but be sure to come bundled up for the cold February weather. Please pre-register by February 1st.



Snowshoe Hike

Saturday, February 4th | 1 p.m. | Pickard Park, Indianola

Don't let the winter weather keep you locked up indoors! Join Warren County Conservation and Indianola Parks & Recreation to learn how easy and fun snowshoeing can be while experiencing the great outdoors! Fun for the whole family! Proper clothing, equipment, and techniques will be discussed. Wear warm boots. This event is weather dependent. Please register by February 1st.



All About Antlers

Saturday, February 18th | 1 p.m. | ANC

Join us for a fun, family-friendly program to learn all about animals with antlers. We will feel antlers, learn the difference between antlers and horns, do an antler craft and more. Learn about how to look for shed deer antlers outdoors. Please register by Wednesday, December 15th.

Valentine Snowshoeing

Monday, February 13th | 5:00 p.m. | ANC

Bring your Valentine to enjoy an outdoors Valentine's activity with Warren County Conservation. Enjoy the winter wonderland at the Annett Nature Center Park on snowshoes and then warm up with hot chocolate. If there is no snow, we will still take a night hike around the park. Please register by February 10th.

March

Hunter Education

March 2nd & 4th | Izaak Walton League

Hunter education is designed to introduce students to life-long skills important to the many different types of outdoor recreation. The course teaches students basic survival and first aid skills, water safety, wildlife identification, and the basics of wildlife management, hunting laws, and firearm/archery safety. Hunter education also stresses the importance of individual responsibility and outdoor ethics. Iowa law requires that anyone born after January 1, 1972 must be certified in hunter education to purchase an Iowa hunting license. Please visit iowadnr.gov to register.

Save the Date!

April 8: Osprey 5K
April 15: Easter Egg Geocache Hike
April 25: Wildflower Walk

**Please visit www.warrencb.org/events
or call (515) 961-6169
to pre-register for any programs.**

Parks

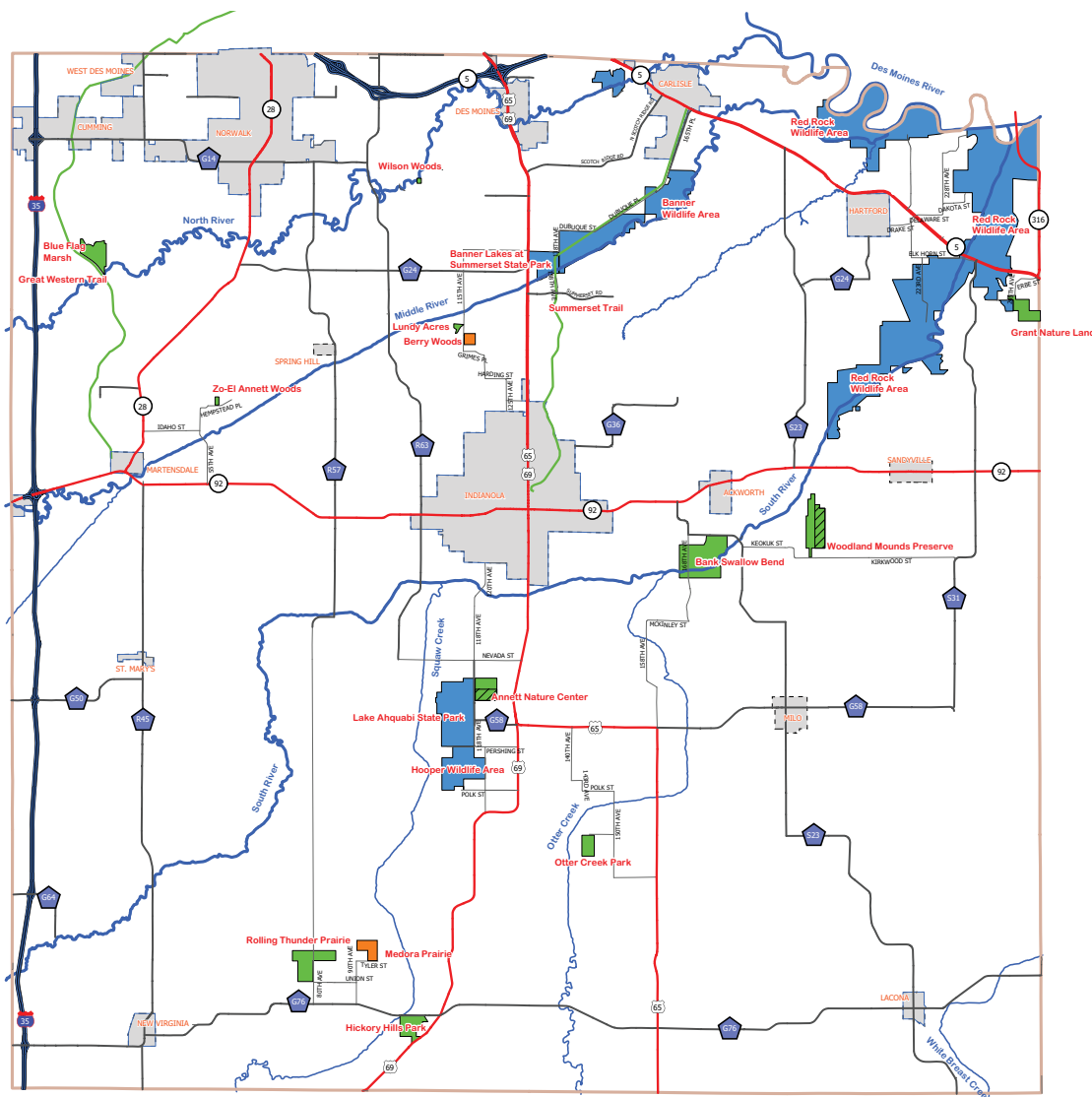
Open 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
Monday–Friday*



- Interpretive Exhibits
- Variety of live animals
- Butterfly Garden
- Trails through prairie, wetland, and forest
- Wildlife Viewing Blind
- Observation Tower

*Duties sometimes require all staff be out of the office, calling ahead is advised.

(515) 961-6169
15565 118th Avenue
Indianola, IA 50125



Reserve Today!

Looking for a beautiful, affordable site to hold your wedding, family gathering or other event?



Consider the community room at the Annett Nature Center, the barn at Hickory Hills, or the picnic shelters at Hickory Hills, Grant Park, Otter Creek, or the Great Western Trailhead. Call (515) 961-6169 for details.

Looking for a beautiful, affordable site to hold your wedding, family gathering or other event?



Consider the community room at the Annett Nature Center, the barn at Hickory Hills, or the picnic shelters at Hickory Hills, Grant Park, Otter Creek, or the Great Western Trailhead. Call (515) 961-6169 for details.

[illegible]

Day Camps



Registration for the Warren County Conservation Board 2017 Summer Nature Day Camps will open on Wednesday, March 1st at 8:00 a.m.

Naturalists lead an annual set of summer camps that allow children to explore and enjoy the great outdoors. The camps are a week-long experience in conservation and nature. Activities may include hiking & outdoor recreation, meeting live animals, story time, nature arts & crafts, picnics, and science activities. Kestrel and Challenge camps will also include an overnight with campfire cooking and a campout.

Parents may register children for camp beginning Wednesday, March 1, 2017 at 8:00 a.m. Registration is limited and on a first-come, first-served basis. To register, come to the Annett Nature Center or call us at (515) 961-6169 (no e-mail registrations will be accepted.)

Camp sessions fill up very quickly. Because of limited enrollment, children are asked to attend each camp only once.

Day Camp fees are non-refundable. Scholarships are available. Contact a WCCB naturalist for details.



CAMP DATES

CRICKET CAMP (2 sessions):

Ages 4–5

Session I: June 12–16

Session II: June 19–23

Cost: \$45

Monday–Thursday, 9:00–11:30 a.m.

Friday, 10:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

This camp is themed around animal families.

DISCOVERY CAMP:

Ages 6–7

June 26–30

Cost: \$65

Monday–Thursday 9:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

Friday 10:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

This camp is themed around habitats and the principles of Leave No Trace.

KESTREL CAMP:

Ages 8–9

July 10–14

Cost: \$70

Monday–Wednesday 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

Thursday 3:00 p.m.–Friday 8:00 a.m.

This camp is themed around early Iowans.

CHALLENGE CAMP:

Ages 10–12

July 17–21

Cost: \$70

Monday–Wednesday 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

Thursday 3:00 p.m.–Friday 8:00 a.m.

This camp is themed around an outdoor challenge/survival theme.



2016

Warren County Conservation Board



The Warren County Conservation Board manages over 2,200 acres of land for the benefit of its citizens. Visitors can enjoy a variety of outdoor activities on areas being conserved for this generation and generations to come.

Subscribe to *Three Rivers Journal* via email!
Reduce waste and get frequent updates on
programs, parks, & projects:



subscribewccb
@warrencb.org



BOARD MEMBERS

Mick Kreidler, President	Indianola
Sue Boll, Vice-President	Carlisle
Joe Gavin, Secretary	Martensdale
Ace Hendricks	Ackworth
Ron Miller	Milo

STAFF

Tyler Seuferer	Conservation Technician
Logan Roberts	Naturalist I
Karen Johlas-Szalkowski	Naturalist II
Doug Gaumer	Conservation Technician
Mark Wilson	Natural Resource Specialist
Jim Priebe	Director
David Youngblut	Operation Coordinator

The Warren County Conservation Board does not discriminate against anyone on the basis of race, color, sex, creed, national origin, age or handicap. If anyone believes he or she has been subjected to such discrimination, he or she may file a complaint alleging discrimination with either the Warren County Conservation Board or the Office of Equal Opportunity, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

Warren County Conservation Board
15565 118th Avenue
Indianola, IA 50125-8852
(515) 961-6169
www.warrencb.org